

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received APR 9 1986  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Southwestern Bell Telephone Building

and or common same

**2. Location**

street & number 301 West Seventh Street N/A not for publication

city, town Stroud N/A vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Lincoln code 081

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

street & number 301 West Seventh Street

city, town Stroud N/A vicinity of state Oklahoma 74079

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number Lincoln County Courthouse

city, town Chandler state Oklahoma 74834

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1985  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office - Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City, state Oklahoma 73105

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Southwestern Bell Telephone Building is a detached commercial structure with one story and a raised basement floor. It is approximately 50' x 65' with a parapeted flat roof and buff brick wall finish laid in the common bond.

Front, or south side, raised basement portion has one opening with louvered metal cover and three 3/3 double-hung metal windows. First story contains four 6/6 double-hung metal windows and metal double door front entrance topped with a six pane transom. Above entry doors is a louvered aluminum vent.

The raised basement of west side consists of four 3/3 double-hung metal windows and the first floor has seven 6/6 double-hung metal windows.

Rear, or north side, openings consist of two metal panel doors leading to basement floor and one metal panel door in first floor. There are also three 6/6 double-hung metal windows in first story. Two outside stairs are located in rear, one to basement and the other to the first floor. Both have metal pipe handrails.

Decorative features include several Art Deco elements. Twenty-three wall pilasters separate openings on all sides (eight on east, five on west, four on rear, and six on front). Sixteen of these wall pilasters extend above the terra cotta cornice giving an overall vertical emphasis to the building. Accentuating the verticality of the building is a square-shaped tower on the northeast corner. Each of the sixteen extended pilasters are topped with stepped crowns featuring floriated and fluted terra cotta ornamentation. The transomed double door entry is surrounded with terra cotta elements in geometric, floriated, and fluted designs. Further Art Deco features consist of numerous metal sash-type windows in straight-headed openings, floriated terra cotta spandrel-like elements above and below first floor windows, limestone belt course delineating the two floors on east, south, and part of the west walls, and limestone slip sills and brick soldier-coursed lintels.

Alterations are minimal and all have been completed in the last ten years. Aluminum storm screens have been placed over first story windows, an aluminum vent replacement over entry doors, and brick walls in rear and approximately two-thirds of west wall have been painted white.

The building currently serves as a telephone switching station and has remained in the ownership of Bell Telephone Company for more than 56 years.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1929 **Builder/Architect** Southwestern Bell Company

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Building is architecturally significant because it is the only Art Deco style structure in Stroud.

Constructed in 1929, the nominated property reflects the verticality and decorative motifs of the Art Deco vocabulary, commonly used on commercial buildings in the 1920s. Twenty-three wall pilasters lend vertical emphasis to the building, sixteen of which are topped with stepped crowns featuring floriated and fluted terra cotta ornamentation. These projections as well as a square-shaped tower on the northeast corner and long rectangular-shaped, straight-headed openings enhance its verticality.

Highlighting the double door entrance is the low-relief terra cotta ornamentation in various geometric, floriated, and fluted motifs. Additional Art Deco features consist of the floriated terra cotta spandrel-like elements above and below first floor windows and numerous metal sash-type windows.

Although modest in Art Deco detailing, the Southwestern Bell Telephone Building has retained its architectural integrity for more than 56 years and stands as the only Art Deco building in this small Oklahoma community.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Personal Interview: Alfred Boisseau, May, 1985.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Stroud North, OK.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

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7	1	1	9	1	8
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 37-42, Block 3, Burton Addition, Stroud, Oklahoma

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. George O. Carney

organization Department of Geography

date July, 1985

street & number Oklahoma State University

telephone 405-624-6250

city or town Stillwater

state Oklahoma 74078

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Campetaly* 3/31/86

title

date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*William D. Bushong*  
for Keeper of the National Register

date

5/14/86

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration